

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the disclosed invention was deemed to be inoperative. This ground for rejection is overcome by amending the application to replace all occurrences of the word "demultiplexer" by the word --multiplexer--. That the device 251 shown in Fig. 2B is a multiplexer would be understood by one of ordinary skill in the art. The definition of "multiplexer" in the IEEE Standard Dictionary of Electrical and Electronic Terms is, "(A) a device that allows the interleaving of two or more signals to a single line or terminal. (B) A device for selecting one of a number of inputs and switching its information to the output." The device 251 shown in Fig. 2B and described in paragraphs [0017] and [0027] is clearly operating according to the first definition of multiplexer as it is interleaving the processed signals provided by the two universal format converters 234 and 244 to produce the output video signal. Because one of ordinary skill in the art would understand that the device 251 was operating as a multiplexer, no new matter is added by this amendment.

Drawing Figure 2B is amended consistent with the amendments to the specification and claims to change the label for block 251 from "DEMUX" to --MUX,-- the abbreviation for multiplexer.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. This ground for rejection is overcome by the amendment to claim 1 which replaces "converters" by --processors--. There is antecedent basis for the term "plurality of processors."

Claims 2 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gove et al. This ground for rejection is overcome by the amendments to claim 2. Claim 3 has been amended to be consistent with claim 2. In particular, Gove et al. do not disclose or suggest "a formatter coupled to receive a first video signal and configured to divide each video image into a plurality of parts, each part including at least a portion of a vertical blanking interval," as required by amended claim 2.

Gove et al. concerns apparatus that processes components of video lines in parallel to allow more complex processing of the signal than would be possible if the video line were processed as a unit. Because the apparatus used by Gove et al. disclose only dividing video lines into components, they do not disclose or suggest any apparatus that divides the video

signal into a plurality of parts where each part includes at least a portion of a vertical blanking interval, as required by amended claim 2.

Because Gove et al. does not disclose or suggest this limitation of claim 2, claim 2 and claims 5-7 that depend from claim 2 are not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) in view of Gove et al.

The prior art made of record but not relied upon has been considered but does not affect the patentability of any of the claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1-14.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments: Figure 28 (1 sheet)

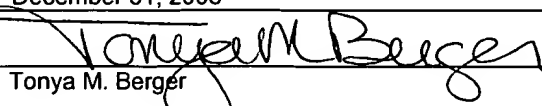
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